<u>AMENDMENT</u>

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows (a clean copy of the amended claims being attached hereto):

1. (Amended) A system for facilitating the processing and management of a securities trade comprising:

a computer;

trade execution information received by said computer, said trade execution information indicative of an executed trade by a first trading party and comprising trade data concerning one or more details of the executed trade itself;

trade allocation information received by said computer, said trade allocation information indicative of an ordered trade by a second trading party and comprising trade data concerning one or more details of the ordered trade itself;

a set of predefined acceptable trade details; and

software executing on said computer for comparing the trade data contained in said trade execution information with the trade data contained in said trade allocation information, and for determining that a match exists if the trade data contained in said trade execution information and the trade data contained in said trade allocation information correlate within said set of predefined acceptable trade details.

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11. (Amended) The system of Claim 1:

wherein the trade data contained in said trade execution information and the trade data contained in said trade allocation information include minimum pairing data;

further comprising software executing on said computer for comparing the trade data contained in said trade execution information with the trade data contained in said trade allocation information, said software determining that a pairing exists if the minimum pairing data of the trade data contained in said trade execution information corresponds to the minimum pairing data of the trade data contained in said trade allocation information; and

wherein said matching software compares trade execution information and trade allocation information only after a pairing has been found to exist.

23. (Amended) A system for facilitating the processing and management of a securities trade comprising:

a computer;

trade execution information received by said computer, said trade execution information indicative of an executed trade by a first trading party and comprising trade data concerning one or more details of the executed trade itself, including a first trading party identification and minimum pairing data;

trade allocation information received by said computer, said trade allocation information indicative of an ordered trade by a second trading party and comprising trade

data concerning one or more details of the ordered trade itself, including a second trading party identification and minimum pairing data;

a database containing a plurality of trading party profiles accessible by said computer and retrievable by trading party identification, the trading party profiles indicative of acceptable trade details;

a plurality of enrichment databases having enrichment data stored thereon;

software executing on said computer for enriching said trade execution information and said trade allocation information with data retrieved from said plurality of enrichment databases;

software executing on said computer for allowing the first trading party to access, modify and confirm the first trading party profile and said enrichment databases and for allowing the second trading party to access, modify and confirm the second trading party profile and said enrichment databases;

software executing on said computer for comparing the trade data contained in said trade execution information with the trade data contained in said trade allocation information, and for determining that a pairing exists if the minimum pairing data of the trade data contained in said trade execution information corresponds to the minimum pairing data of the trade data contained in said trade allocation information;

software executing on said computer for comparing the trade data contained in said trade execution information with the trade data contained in said trade allocation information if a pairing has been found to exist, and for determining that a match exists if

the trade data contained in said trade execution information and the trade data contained in said trade allocation information correlate within the acceptable trade details supplied in the trading party profile for the first trading party and the trading party profile for the second trading party;

software executing on said computer for calculating a trade net amount if a match is determined to exist using the enriched trade execution information and the enriched trade allocation information; and

an affirmation generated by said computer if a match is determined to exist, the affirmation being transmitted to the first trading party and the second trading party confirming that a match has been detected and containing all data necessary for settling the trade.

38. (Amended) A method for facilitating the processing and management of a securities trade comprising the steps of:

receiving trade execution information, the trade execution information indicative of an executed trade by a first trading party and comprising trade data concerning one or more details of the executed trade itself, including a first trading party identification;

receiving trade allocation information, said trade allocation information indicative of an ordered trade by a second trading party and comprising trade data concerning one or more details of the ordered trade itself, including a second trading party identification;

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providing a database containing a plurality of trading party profiles, each of the trading party profiles including an indication of acceptable trade details;

retrieving a first trading party profile from the database based upon the first trading party identification and retrieving a second trading party profile from the database based upon the second trading party identification; and

comparing the <u>trade data contained in</u> the trade execution information with <u>the trade data contained in</u> the trade allocation information and determining that a match exists if <u>the trade data contained in</u> the trade execution information and <u>the trade data contained in</u> the trade allocation information correlate within the indication of acceptable trade details supplied in the first trading party profile and the indication of acceptable trade details supplied in the second trading party profile.

39. (Amended) The method of Claim 38:

wherein the trade data contained in the trade execution information and the trade data contained in the trade allocation information include minimum pairing data;

further comprising, before said comparing and determining that a match exists step, the step of comparing the trade data contained in the trade execution information with the trade data contained in the trade allocation information and determining that a pairing exists if the minimum pairing data of the trade execution information corresponds to the minimum pairing data of the trade allocation information; and